Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* Sir, it arises in this way. On the pretext of licensing, a large number of licenses have been refused. If there was no necessity for any license this would not have occurred.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Excise Commissioner has introduced the system of boiling and finding out whether sweet toddy is added to fermented toddy?

Mr. President: That question does not arise.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the Government are aware that jaggery manufacture is one of the most important cottage industries of Chittur and Talappalli Taluks?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* But that fact cannot get over the rules.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Can you not change the rules?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* That is another matter.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Is the present Excise Commissioner aware of the fact that when Mr. Subramania Ayyar was the Excise Commissioner he has answered from the Treasury Bench that the purpose of issuing licenses is merely to determine the number of trees and nothing more?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* I want notice.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Will the Government be pleased to go through the Council Proceedings and find out the answer given by the then Excise Commissioner?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development has done anything for the improvement of jaggery manufacture?

Mr. President: That question does not arise.

GANJA AND OPIUM—ISSUE IN CHITTUR TALUK

135. Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) how much ganja and opium was issued each year for the last six years from the Chittur Taluk Office to the contractors;

(*b*) how much within the first six months in 1116;

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(c) what the cause of disparity was, if any, in the quantities issued?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):*

(a)

Year		*Ganja seers*	*Opium seers*
1111	..	235	35
1112	..	235	32½
1113	..	333	38½
1114	..	355	35½
1115	..	604	36
1116	..	1086	44

(b) 932 seers of ganja and 21 seers of opium.

(c) Ganja. The reason for the disparity is that in some years, owing to the superior quality of the Ganja supplied, there was increased demand.

Opium. Till 1115 the ration fixed was 36 seers a year. In some years, when the outgoing licensees happen to be the licensees of the succeeding year also, they used to be given a few seers as advance at the end of the year to help them to begin business from the 1st of Chingam itself. This accounts for the disparity. In 1116, however, the ration was enhanced to 42 seers per annum. 1½ seers were issued to the licensees of 1117 and half a seer was issued in excess by Chittur Treasury Officer by mistake.

LEG SLATIVE BUSINESS—NON-OFFICIAL BILLS

The Cochin Christian Succession Act (Amendment) Bill—*(cont.)*

Mr. President: Now we shall continue the discussion on the Christian Succession Act (Amendment) Bill.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* On a point of explanation, I was told yesterday by a responsible member of this House that I had supported the Cochin Christian Succession Act (Amendment) Bill. I have not supported the provisions of the Bill. My idea about the meirts of the Bill is yet unsettled. So at present I may be considered to be neutral.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* He seconded the motion. I was in the Chair.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* As far as the merits of the Bill is concerned I am neutral at present.

*മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ: മിസ്റ്റർ പ്രസിഡണ്ട് സർ, ഇന്നലെ ഈ വിഷയത്തെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കു തോന്നിയിട്ടുള്ള മിക്ക അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളും ഞാൻ പറയുകയു

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member.

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